

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6513

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2647

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, KS

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY - MUN TONG-HWAN

1. MRS. MUN TONG-HWAN (NEE PINCHBECK) VISITED EMBASSY APRIL 8. MRS. MUN CONFIRMED THAT NEITHER SHE NOR OTHER RELATIVES OF THOSE JAILED HAVE BEEN ABLE TO VISIT PRISONERS. MRS. MUN SAID SHE IS IN CONTACT WITH MRS. KIM TAE-CHUNG AND OTHER PRISONER'S WIVES, BUT THAT NONE HAVE ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING PRISONERS OTHER THAN THAT ABOUT KIM TAE-CHUNG PROVIDED BY KIM'S LAWYERS.

2. WHILE NOT EXPRESSING ANY SPECIFIC CONCERN FOR HEALTH OF HER HUSBAND MRS. MUN SAID THAT THERE WAS GENERAL WORRY AMONG RELATIVES SIMPLY BECAUSE OF COMPLETE LACK OF NEWS. SHE ADDED THAT PRISON AUTHORITIES WERE NOT DRAWING UPON FUNDS PROVIDED BY FAMILIES WHICH TRADITIONALLY CAN BE USED BY PRISONERS TO SUPPLEMENT PRISON DIET.

3. WE HAVE HEARD THAT MRS. KIM TAE-CHUNG HAS SENT SECOND LETTER TO PRESIDENT PARK ASKING THAT PRISONERS BE RELEASED PENDING TRIAL. KIM'S SECRETARY HAS ALSO TOLD USIS OFFICER THAT MRS. KIM HAS BEEN QUESTIONED BY KCIA CONCERNING LETTER OF SUPPORT SHE RECEIVED FROM SENATOR KENNEDY.
SNEIDER

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